

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a call directed to one of a plurality of numbers, each number associated with at least one of a plurality of services, ~~processing requests for a network service,~~ the method comprising the steps of:
 - receiving data from a customer designating routing destinations for ~~service-~~ ~~request~~ calls and storing the designated routing destinations in a database;
 - receiving a call directed to one of the plurality of numbers from a calling party, wherein the call includes a trigger number;
 - determining whether or not the trigger number matches a predetermined trigger number;
 - requesting the calling party to select a first or second service, in response to the determination that the trigger number does not match the predetermined trigger number;
 - requesting the calling party to select one of a plurality of related types of the first service in response to the determination that the trigger number matches the predetermined trigger number; and
 - routing the call to one of a plurality of service centers, based upon a response from the calling party to the request and the designated routing destinations indicated by the customer data.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of requesting the calling party to select a first or second service, in response to the determination that the trigger number does not match the predetermined trigger number, further includes:

requesting the calling party to select a type of the first service in response to the calling party selecting the first service; and

requesting the calling party to select a type of the second service in response to the calling party selecting the second service.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the routing step further includes:
routing the call to a first service center in response to the calling party selecting a first type of the first service; and

routing the call to a second service center in response to the calling party selecting one of a second type of the first service, a first type of the second service and a second type of the second service.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein routing the call to a second service center further includes:

locating the second service center based upon a calling party number associated with the calling party.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein routing the call to a second service center further includes:

locating the second service center based upon a state from which the calling party initiates the call.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the calling party is associated with a calling party number, and wherein locating the second service center further includes:

comparing the calling party number with a number plan area table to determine the state from which the calling party initiates the call.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:
collecting status information associated with the call; and
storing said status information in a status log.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the status information includes information associated with the service selected by the calling party, the type of service selected by the calling party, the service center to which the call was routed and abandoned calls.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further including:
utilizing the collected status information to determine where subsequent calls are to be routed.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein when the first service center is associated with a first auxiliary service center, the method further including the steps of:

detecting a network fault condition associated with routing the call to the first service center; and

rerouting the call to the first auxiliary service center.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the first auxiliary service center is the second service center.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein when the second service center is associated with a second auxiliary second service center, the method further including the steps of:

detecting a network fault condition associated with routing the call to the second service center; and

rerouting the call to the second auxiliary service center.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the second auxiliary service center is the first service center.

Claims 14-15 (Canceled).

16. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first service is ADSL service and the second service is ISDN service and wherein the type of the first service is one of residential and business ADSL service, and the type of the second service is one of residential and business ISDN service.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for routing a call directed to one of a plurality of numbers, each number associated with at least one of a plurality of services, ~~processing requests for network services,~~ the system comprising:

a calling party node configured to connect a calling party to a network;

a switching node connected to the network for receiving a ~~service request~~ call directed to one of a plurality of numbers, the call including a trigger number, from the calling party node through the network;

a switching control node connected to the switching node for receiving data from a customer designating routing destinations for ~~service request~~ calls, storing the designated routing destinations in a database, and determining a service center to which the call is to be routed, based on the trigger number, service query responses from the calling party, and the designated routing destinations indicated by the customer data, wherein in response to a determination that the trigger number matches a predetermined trigger number, said switching control node forwarding requests to the calling party to select one of a plurality of related types of a first service, the calling party generating said service query responses in response to said requests;

a first service center connected to the switching node for processing call requests for the first service; and

a plurality of second service centers connected to the network for processing call requests for a second service.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the switching control node determines whether or not the trigger number matches a predetermined trigger number, and wherein the service query responses are received in response to the switching node requesting the calling party node to select a first or second service in response to the determination that the trigger number does not match a predetermined trigger number.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the switching control node instructs the switching node to request the calling party node to select a type of the first service in response to the calling party node selecting the first service and requests the calling party node to select a type of the second service in response to the calling party node selecting the second service.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the switching control node instructs the switching node to route the call to the first service center in response to the calling party node selecting a first type of the first service.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the switching control node instructs the switching node to route the call to one of the plurality of second service centers in response to the calling party node selecting one of a second type of the first service, a first type of the second service and a second type of the second service.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the switching control node includes a memory device that contains a number plan area table and wherein the switching control node determines the one of the plurality of second service centers by comparing a calling party number associated with the calling party node, with information contained in the number plan area table.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the switching control node determines a state from which the calling party node is located based upon the comparing of the calling party number with the information contained in the number plan area table.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, further including:
a first auxiliary service center for receiving the call routed to the first service center when the switching control node detects a network fault in routing the call to the first service center.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, further including:

a second auxiliary service center for receiving the call routed to the one of the plurality of second service centers when the switching control node detects a network fault in routing the call to the one of the plurality of second service centers.

27. (Original) The system of claim 17, further including:

a test call generator connected to the network for generating test calls including a test trigger number directed to the switching node, wherein the test call generator verifies whether the switching control node receives the test call.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the switching control node includes a service logic program, the system further comprising:

a test call generator connected to the network for generating test calls to verify that the switching control node activates the service logic program in response to the switching node receiving the test calls, wherein the service logic program performs the functions of determining a service center to which the call is to be routed based on the trigger number and service query responses from the calling party.

29. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the first service is ADSL service and the second service is ISDN service.

30. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the type of the first service is one of residential and business ADSL service and wherein the type of the second service is one of residential and business ISDN service.

31. (Currently Amended) A computer program storage device having a computer program being operable to cause a processor to perform a method for routing a call directed to one of a plurality of numbers, each number associated with at least ~~processing requests for a network service~~, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a call directed to one of the plurality of numbers from a calling party, wherein the call includes a trigger number;

receiving data from a customer designating routing destinations for ~~service-~~ ~~request~~ calls and storing the designated routing destinations in a database;

determining whether or not the trigger number matches a predetermined trigger number;

requesting the calling party to select a first or second service, in response to the determination that the trigger number does not match the predetermined trigger number;

requesting the calling party to select one of a plurality of related types of the first service in response to the determination that the trigger number matches the predetermined trigger number; and

routing the call to one of a plurality of service centers, based upon a response from the calling party to the request and the designating routing destinations indicated by the customer data.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 31, wherein the step of requesting the calling party to select a first or second service, in

response to the determination that the trigger number does not match the predetermined number, further includes:

requesting the calling party to select a type of the first service in response to the calling party selecting the first service; and

requesting the calling party to select a type of the second service in response to the calling party selecting the second service.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 32, wherein the routing step further includes:

routing the call to a first service center in response to the calling party selecting a first type of the first service; and

routing the call to a second service center in response to the calling party selecting one of a second type of the first service, a first type of the second service and a second type of the second service.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 33, wherein routing the call to a second service center further includes:

locating the second service center based upon a calling party number associated with the calling party.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 33, wherein routing the call to a second service center further includes:

locating the second service center based upon a state from which the calling party initiates the call.

36. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 35, wherein the calling party is associated with a calling party number, and wherein locating the second service center further includes:

comparing the calling party number with a number plan area table to determine the state from which the calling party initiates the call.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 31, wherein the method further includes the steps of:

collecting status information associated with the call; and
storing said status information in a status log.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 37, wherein the status information includes information associated with the service selected by the calling party, the type of service selected by the calling party, the service center to which the call was routed and abandoned calls.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 37, wherein the method further includes the steps of:

utilizing the collected status information to determine where the service center subsequent calls are to be routed.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 33, wherein the first service center is associated with a first auxiliary service center, the method further including the steps of:

detecting a network fault condition associated with routing the call to the first service center; and

rerouting the call to the first auxiliary service center.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 40, wherein the first auxiliary service center is the second service center.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 40, wherein the second service center is associated with a second auxiliary second service center, the method further includes the steps of:

detecting a network fault condition associated with routing the call to the second service center; and

rerouting the call to the second auxiliary service center.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 42, wherein the second auxiliary service center is the first service center.

Claims 44-45 (Canceled).

46. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 32, wherein the first service is ADSL service and the second service is ISDN service and wherein the type of the first service is one of residential and business ADSL service, and the type of the second service is one of residential and business ISDN service.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the customer designates routing destinations for service calls based on the customer's analysis of a report including data regarding traffic or screening procedures associated with the plurality of service centers.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the customer designates routing destinations for service calls based on the customer's analysis of a report including data regarding traffic or screening procedures associated with the plurality of service centers.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer program storage device of claim 31, wherein the customer designates routing destinations for service calls based on the customer's analysis of a report including data regarding traffic or screening procedures associated with the plurality of service centers.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein when the first service center is associated with a first auxiliary service center, the method further including the steps of:

detecting a traffic overload condition associated with routing the call to the first service center; and

rerouting the call to the first auxiliary service center.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the first service center is associated with a different auxiliary service center, after the customer analyzes a report including data regarding traffic or screening procedures associated with the plurality of service centers.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the designated routing destinations are non-predetermined.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the calling party and the customer are different entities.